

4. WASTE 2002 CONFERENCE – COFFS HARBOUR, AUSTRALIA

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The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the attendance of the Chairman, Councillor Denis O'Rourke and Councillor Sally Buck at the 'Waste 2002' Conference to be held at Coffs Harbour, Australia from 14 to 17 October 2002.

BACKGROUND

'Waste 2002' is an annual conference targeted at elected representatives and local authority staff which provides a forum for information exchange on emerging areas of waste management. The conference will consist of a two day technical tour of key waste management facilities in New South Wales including:

- The Swerf Plant at Woolongong,
- Bedmister Bio Conversion System at Port Stevens,
- Rethmann Facility at Port McQuarrie,
- Waste Services New South Wales, Eastern Creek Facility.

then a two day conference which will cover:

- Alternative technologies,
- Developments in organics processing,
- Strategy to tackle contamination,
- Different collection systems,
- Waste avoidance strategies,
- Resource derived fuels,
- Role of Resource New South Wales, Australia's newest state agency for resource management.

Key speakers include Australian local government elected representatives and staff and waste industry representatives from Australia and overseas.

COST

Estimated costs, excluding meeting allowances, are:

Registration (tour and conference)	\$3,862.00
Air fares	\$1,800.00
Accommodation	\$,650.00
Miscellaneous	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total	\$6,412.00

Funding would be a charge against elected representatives travel and conference budgets.

The conference will provide an opportunity for Councillor Denis O'Rourke, as Chairman of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and Councillor Sally Buck as Chair of the Waste Initiatives Subcommittee to see new developments first hand and to meet with key industry representatives, to gain information on the latest developments in waste management and to find 'best practice' solutions.

Recommendation: That the Council approve the attendance of Councillors Denis O'Rourke and Sally Buck at the 'Waste 2002' Conference to be held at Coffs Harbour, Australia from 14 to 16 October 2002.